## **REMARKS**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's attention to this application.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action (a) objects to certain informalities in the specification; (b) rejects claims 5-9, 15-19, 25-26, and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; (c) rejects claims 1-4, 11-14, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e); and (d) rejects claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). The Office Action also indicates that claims 5-9, 10, 15-19, 20, 22-26, and 28-30 would be allowable of rewritten to include all of the limitations of the respective parent claims and to overcome any rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants do not agree with all of the rejections in the Office Action. However, in order to avoid unnecessary delays, expenses, and arguments, this response amends the claims to put the application in condition for allowance, in accordance with the Office Action. Specifically, to formulate independent claims in accordance with the Office Action, this response

- (a) adds the features from claims 2 and 5 to independent claim 1, and cancels claims 2 and 5;
- (b) rewrites claim 10 in independent form to include the features from its former parent claim (i.e., original claim 1);
- (c) adds the features from claims 12 and 15 to independent claim 11, and cancels claims 12 and 15;
- (d) rewrites claim 20 in independent form to include the features from its former parent claim (i.e., original claim 11);
- (e) adds the features from claim 23 to independent claim 21, and cancels claim 23; and
- (f) adds the features from claim 28 to independent claim 27, and cancels claim 28. Consequently, claims 1, 10, 11, 20, 21, and 27 are the pending independent claims. The amendments also resolve any question of indefinite language in the claims.

This response also corrects the informalities from the scedification that were noted in the Office Action.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, claims 1, 3-4, 6-11, 13-14, 15-22, 24-27, and 29-30 are all in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (512) 732-3927. Early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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